As a Flight Attendant for nearly 20 years, I know that allowing cell phone usage inflight is not a sound idea. The amount of patience passengers have for one another is already waning. If one more potentially loud and inconsiderate thing is allowed to be done while inflight, I am afraid that passengers may be reaching their breaking point. Of course cell phones proved useful on September 11th. They should be saved for just that, emergency use only. As flight attendants we need to be respectfully listened to whenever necessary. This would be one more distraction to passengers of listening to our safety briefings and other requirements. There would also be the possiblity of the "wrong" people using the phones to pass pertinent information to terrorists on the ground or onboard. Please do not allow cell phone usage inflight & help us to maintain a safe & secure environment onboard for our passengers. Sincerely, Lauren Merritt